

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **House of Blues hosts first-ever West Hollywood International Film Festival**

*Events include Wednesday press conference with SAG president, Alan Rosenberg*

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif., July 28 – A special press conference with Alan Rosenberg, president of the Screen Actors Guild, is one of the highlights of the inaugural West Hollywood International Film Festival (WHIFF), beginning Tuesday, at several venues in West Hollywood, including the House of Blues, on the Sunset Strip.

The four-day festival, produced by DeLuca Entertainment and sponsored in part by 93.1 Jack FM, is the first of its kind in the City of West Hollywood. It showcases more than 100 films from around the world. In addition to a prestigious award, the first place film winner will receive the Hollywood Golden Star and a filmmaker's bonanza, the grand prize of 10,000 feet of Fuji film stock.

The Festival will host a press conference with Rosenberg, president of the Screen Actors Guild at noon on July 30 at the House of Blues on Sunset Blvd.

Headlining the Women In Film panel discussion will be Cate Caplin, world champion ballroom dancer and director of "Mating Dance, which screens at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Regency Theaters on Beverly Blvd. Also serving on panels will be directors Paul Lynch and Armand Mastronianni, Alan Rosenberg, President of SAG, actors Robert Easton (comedy panel), Elaine Hendrix, Barbara Niven, Julie Andrews, and Antonio Sabato Jr.

Special musical performances by 'Cipes and The People' will take place on Wednesday, July 30 at the House of Blues beginning at 7 p.m. Opening for Cipes will be a fashion show by

designer Michael Herrera with models from the Janice Dickenson Model Agency. A live performance by Vaud and the Villains will also be featured as well as a closing night performance by Dj M.I.A.

Some highlighted films include:

**Dance of the Dragon:** A film from Singapore about a Korean country boy named Tae has dreamed of being a famous ballroom dancer since his first encounter with the beautiful form when he was a young boy. Twenty years later, he has taught himself to dance with the aid of dance books. Tae knows the only way to take the next step is to leave Korea for Singapore where he can be trained by Emi Lim, a former ballroom dancing champion forced into early retirement due to an injury and now renowned for her ability to take dancers to great heights.  
**Screening: 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Writers Guild of America.**

**Mating Dance:** World champion ballroom dancer Cate Caplin wrote and directed this story of a mysterious "otherworldly" woman who "dances" her way through the relationships of four friends and how their lives are captivated, stirred up and turned upside-down by her presence.  
**Screening: 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Regency Theater.**

**Bad Blood:** What if you're invited to dinner and it turns out YOU are the main course? Piper Laurie (Academy Award nominee in CARRIE) stars in the mouth-watering role of Millie, the Matriarch of this mysterious enclave, while Conrad Janis directs and stars in the pivotal role of Lawrence, its patriarch. Ten young stars play students on a Trip to Tahoe who are suddenly thrust into a Duel-like road rage scenario and then herded to Millie's Cherry Pie Inn and Diner. But the seemingly benign and kindly folks' yearly rituals become the stuff of nightmares.  
**Screening: 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 29 at the Regency Theater.**

**Musical films at House of Blues:** Eight musical films will be featured Wednesday at the House of Blues on the Sunset Strip. They include the Art of the Tease; The Fall of '01; In My Head; The Lifetime Trilogy; Lo-Fi Sugar – the Night Divine; Long Night Drone; Northern Cowboys and Tribute This!

For a complete list of festival events, visit [www.WHIFF2008.com](http://www.WHIFF2008.com) and listen to JACKFM 93.1 for more information.

Festival-goers will enjoy screenings at various landmark venues, including the iconic House of Blues, the Writer's Guild Theater in Beverly Hills and the Regency Theaters on Fairfax and will be automatically entered to win an all-inclusive trip to Costa Rica with every ticket purchased. The funds raised will benefit the Bob Hope Hollywood USO at LAX, a non-profit organization that provides support and services to American troops and their families.

WHIFF celebrates the global impact of Hollywood on the international film community by providing an opportunity for writers, producers, directors and actors from various backgrounds and cultures to unite and share cutting-edge films from across the globe.

For more information and to purchase festival tickets and passes, please visit <http://www.whiff2008.com>. Tickets will also be available at the venues. To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, call 424-288-4536.

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